



## The FC Dulles REC Jamboree

### **Definition:**

The FC Dulles Jamboree is a club-centric academy-style weekly competition usually played on Saturday afternoons where players (boys & girls) come together to test their skills in a small-sided game format (3v3, 4v4, 5v5, or 7v7) played on a small field (usually 20 x 30 yards- depending on the # of players) and with small 4'x6' goals or 5' by 7'. There are no goalkeepers in most instances.

Players are not assigned to formal teams, rather they come to the field at a set time (same time and field each week) and are then organized into teams according to age, size (bio-banding), and skill level. Generally, in most cases, it's coed- boys and girls will play together unless we have enough female players to form a group.

There are no referees- each group is run by an FC Dulles coach who guides the group through the competition. The length of the session is 45 minutes for the U5-U6 Micro-Academy group and 60 minutes for the U7-U9 age groups (REC Academy and ADAP).

Scores are not kept- there are no winners and losers. Winning is defined by how much fun the player has, the number of touches of the soccer ball the player makes during the game, how many passes are completed, the ability to defend, and the ability to finish, and how much effort the player gives to try their best.

Age groups for the Jamboree fall into the following categories: Micro-Academy: U5-U6; REC Academy U7-U9; ADAP: U7/U8.

### **Developmental Purpose:**

1. For players to learn the beautiful game by playing and have fun doing so. The game is the teacher.
2. Allow every kid to be amazing and develop a love and passion for soccer.

3. To maximize touches of the ball.
4. Learn w/ small-sided games- 3v3, 4v4, 5v5, or 7v7, to learn basic components and phases of the game.
5. Score lots of goals- learn how to finish.
6. More focus on the individual player's technical skill development including dribbling, passing, finishing and defending.
7. Because it's a low-pressure environment, players are encouraged to experiment and take risks.
8. More time playing- less time traveling. Jamboree games are at the same time and field each week (usually Poplar Tree 2)
9. Winning is defined by how much fun the player has during the game, the number of touches on the ball, the number of passes made and the number of shots on goal attempted.
10. For everybody to play. No sitting on the bench. Players play all the time!